



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

MCHO-CL-Q

16 March 2004

**MEMORANDUM FOR All Deploying Soldiers Who Possess Healthcare
Licenses/Certifications**

SUBJECT: Requirement to Maintain a Current License/Certification While Deployed

1. Some healthcare workers' licenses/certifications will expire during deployments.
2. The Chief Counsel of Department of Defense Health Affairs (DoD HA) has opined that healthcare workers who must maintain a current valid, unrestricted license/national certification to practice must keep that license/certification current while deployed. This includes physicians, dentists, dietitians, advanced practice nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, physician assistants, social workers, psychologists, audiologists, nurses, licensed practical nurses, EMTs, and any other AOC/MOS that currently requires license/certification. The DoD will not waive this requirement.
3. Each individual license/certification holder is personally responsible to maintain his or her license/certification. Individuals must contact the state board or national certification agency themselves and determine how they can maintain a current license/certification if deployed. Workable options vary by state and include early renewal, delegation by power of attorney to someone else to renew, or web-based renewal. Enclosed is a sample letter that may be used to query the board or certification agency about options for renewal.
4. Any individual who is unable to work out a mechanism to maintain a current license/certification while deployed should immediately notify his or her Chain of Command.
5. The POC for this action is LTC Elaine Fleming, Quality Management Division; Health Policy and Services Directorate, (210)221-8104, DSN 471-8104.

Encl


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COL, MC
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